



Sports

by Gary F. Spitler, Sports Editor

Fighting Christian football squad opens 1976 season Saturday in Norfolk

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Sports Editor

The Fightin' Christians of Elon College will open the 1976 football season this Saturday in Norfolk, Va. against the Spartans of Norfolk State. Last year the squad fell to Norfolk 33-31 and compiled a disappointing 5-6 record. This year will not be a repeat.

"We accomplished more this spring in spring practice than any group since I've been at Elon," commented head Coach S.S. "Red" Wilson. "All the players came out with a good attitude, and that attitude has carried over to the fall squad." But it takes more than just attitude and determination.

But the Christians have that

also. Experience and athletic abilities can be seen as the Christians ready themselves for Saturdays opener. Two capable and strong leaders have been chosen as the co-captains -- Prince Deese and Ricky Locklear. Both have played for Elon over the past years and according to Coach Wilson, "They couldn't have picked any finer players."

Coaches Clayton Johnson, Jerry Tolley, Mickey Brown, and Don Kelly have all been drilling their squads and things are looking up for the success of these squads.

Some of the top returnees are runningbacks Howard Ferguson, Prince Deese, and Kenny Washington. Offensive tackle Bob Craig is expected to

pour it on this season. Two defensive tackles with enormous abilities return with Ricky Locklear and Randy Oxendine. Other returning are center Jeff MacKenzie, defensive ends Jo Gro and Eddie Foust, and linebackers Mark Heil.

The Christians have several good transfers in Billy Murpy, Don Mackey, Alan Roberson, James Riddle, and Randy Smith. The defensive line, linebackers, and defensive ends are among the best and for this reason the Christians of Elon College have been picked as co-favorites with the Lenoir Rhyne Bears for the second SAC-8 title. This is the second year of the South Atlantic Conference.



Coach Jerry Tolley, one of the assistant coaches of the chidders, stops a busy day of practice to introduce the 1976 co-captains. This year Prince Deese and Ricky Locklear will serve as the team leaders. (News Bureau Photo)

Elon summer baseball team finishes in fifth

by Gary Spitler
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The Fightin' Christians participated in the N.C. Collegiate Summer League last summer for the first time. The Elon squad headed off the second loop finishing in fifth place with a 19-23 record. UNC-Chapel Hill, who went on to claim the '76 crown, Methodist, Louisburg, and East Carolina advanced to the playoffs in early August. The Christians, leading the league in hitting all year, finished ahead of UNC-Wilmington, Campbell and Atlantic Christian.

The diamonders gained experience in the summer program which should prove helpful this spring in conference action. The Elon squad will meet such teams this spring as N.C. State, UNC-Chapel Hill, Wake Forest, William and Mary, East Carolina, Duke, UNC-Wilmington, Old Dominion, Randolph-Macon and others as well as the conference opponents. The 40-game schedule will be tough for the Christians, but the depth and experience gained from the summer season should prove beneficial.

Leaders on the summer team resembled those of the '76 spring squad. Catcher Tommy Vaughn slugged a .358 while collecting ten doubles, two triples, and contributing 17 RBI's. He was followed by Catcher Charlie Gamble who

batted a .342 and led the RBI department with 24. Louisburg transfer Kelly Miller finished third in the batting department, knocking a .316, having three doubles and two triples. The team ended up batting a swift .282, which led all the summer league teams.

The pitchers were also tops in the stats which found Ronnie Johnson leading in the ERA's with a 2.00. Johnson was hurt not in hits but walks. The Elon College native gave up only 36 hits in 68 innings pitched, but walked 79 which contributed to his 1-7 record. Sophomore Lee Baldwin followed Johnson with a 2.05 ERA and was the winningest pitcher on the team with a 5-3 slate. Baldwin appeared in more games than any other pitcher to lead that department, which accounted for his 75 innings pitched. Baldwin's last win was a big victory over the UNC "Tarheels" when Elon won 7-3 in their final game.

Pennsylvania native Lou Williams ended the summer campaign with a 6-6 mark and a 2.53 ERA. Williams led in strike outs for the Christians having 91 in his 79 innings hurling. The pitching squad finished the summer season with a 3.28 ERA giving up 123 earned runs out of 215.

Head Coach Bobby Jones and the entire summer squad worked hard and traveled more than ever before. This summer experience should make Elon a strong conference contender for the 1977 crown in the spring.

Students Activities Office offers new game room, other amusements

The Student Activities Office announces the re-opening of a unique game room. On second floor of Long Student Center, students can relax for awhile away from the books.

Among the games available are pinball, football, table tennis, ping pong, as well as pool.

So, as it was said in an earlier

Student Union Board publication, "An Introduction to Elon College," the student center is for YOU. "The Student Union is a place to: unwind, have fun shooting a game of pool or playing pinball, make decisions, belong, talk to people, gripe, enjoy the arts, get help, give help, be a leader, find out what's going on, mix with

faculty, administration, and other students, snack, buy stuff, receive health care, discover what people are like at their worst and best, study, rest, check the mail, attend meetings, chat with SGA officers, see the campus ministers, watch television, kill time, vote, raise money, ask for information, compete in a tournament, talk about personal concerns, be yourself, reserve a room, meet someone new, find a foursome for rummy and get ready for the next challenge."

Meet your new cheerleaders

The 1976-77 cheerleading squad will be boosting Elon College this Saturday as the Christians battle the Spartans of Norfolk State in Virginia.

The cheerleading squad is made up of: Catherine Watkins, Kathleen Butler, Gwendolyn Crawford, Karon DeClark, Eve Donahue, Christy Jones, Lynn Nessel, Barry Staton, Larry Swanson, Ann Washburn, and Mary Womber. The new adviser for the spirited group is Coach Barbara Yarborough.

Students are urged to support the teams this year and join with the '76 cheerleaders to boost Elon College to many victories this year.



Elon College will go into action this Saturday in their 1976 season opener. (News Bureau Photo)

Miss Lackey plans full slate of events starting now

Intramurals will be in full swing this year with the new Miss Julia Ann (Julie) Lackey at the head of the year's activities. Miss Lackey received her B.A. and M.A.T. from UNC-Chapel Hill and will serve as assistant co-ordinator of student activities while at Elon. She will also be in charge of the intramural program. Yes, that's right guys, she will head the intramural program.

Anyone interested in officiating touch football should contact the intramural office between 12 noon and 9 p.m. Monday through Friday. If

interested, you should also attend the meeting to be held in the new gym classroom Sept. 15.

The following are additional announcements of the intramural office: There will be a team managers meeting at 7 p.m. on Sept. 15, and there will also be a football officials meeting at 8 p.m. on Sept. 15. On Sept. 16 there will be a meeting of the intramural council at 7:30 p.m., all being held in the new gym classroom.

For further information, contact the intramural office at Ext. 398 between the hours of 12 noon and 9 p.m.

NOTICE
Anyone interested in writing sports news this year is urged to contact Gary Spitler, sports editor, as soon as possible. He can be reached at Ext. 346 on Campus Box 5349.
Students are urged to send in information which would be of interest to the college community. Items may also be submitted to Box 5349.
Students may join others to get an educational experience outside the classroom by writing Elon College sports.

1976 ELON COLLEGE "Fighting Christians"

- Sept. 11 Norfolk State 1:30
- Sept. 18* Liberty Baptist 7:30
- Sept. 25 Lockhaven 1:30
- Oct. 2† Mars Hill 2:00
- Oct. 9* Wofford 2:00 (Homecoming)
- Oct. 16†* Presbyterian 7:30
- Oct. 23† Catawba 2:00
- Oct. 30† Gardner Webb 7:30
- Nov. 6†* Newberry 2:00
- Nov. 13† Lenoir Rhyne 2:00
- Nov. 20†* Carson-Newman 2:00

*Home Games
†Conference Games

N.C. Summer Baseball League Final Regular Season Standings				
	W	L	Pct	GB
1. UNC-Chapel Hill	30	12	.714	
2. Louisburg	28	14	.666	2
3. Methodist	25	16	.609	4 1/2
4. East Carolina	23	17	.560	6
5. ELON COLLEGE	19	23	.452	11
6. UNC-Wilmington	17	24	.414	12 1/2
7. Atlantic Christian	13	29	.309	17
8. Campbell	11	31	.261	19



Coach S.S. "Red" Wilson will take his Fighting Christians into action THIS SATURDAY in Norfolk, Va. against the Spartans of Norfolk State. This is Wilson's tenth year as Elon's head football coach. (News Bureau Photo)